The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
## WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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**Samuel Gompers said:**

**No one who has known me fairly intimately has ever accused me of running away from an honorable contest.**

WHOLE NO. 2044 — WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* — VOL. 40, NO. 24

# Congressmen Need Labor Press Help

Washington.—Labor's friends in Congress need and want the support of labor newspapers.

House and Senate members made direct appeals for this help in speeches and communications to the Eastern Labor Press Conference at its 9th annual convention.

Rep. George M. Rhodes, vice president of the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor, who is running for reelection in November, said:

"I wouldn't be in Congress if it hadn't been for the labor press, and we are going to increase the liberal majority in Congress, the labor press has a job to do."

Rep. Roy M. Wier, representative in the Minnesota Senate and Labor Assembly, also seeking a second term in Congress, told the editors:

"My return to Congress depends upon the labor press."

Rep. Usher L. Burdick, North Dakota, thanked the editors for the adoption of a resolution condemning the curtailment of postal service and said it will help the fight to cancel these slashes.

Reps. Edward H. Kruse and James E. Noland of Indiana attended.

The following senators sent messages of commendation:

Sen. Frank J. Myers of Pennsylvania—"The labor press has a real assignment in giving the American people a clear picture of the many issues in today's troubled world. I know you are doing an excellent job."

Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon—"I think you editors of America's labor press have a very important role in education to do by way of spreading through your columns factual information on the subject of labor legislation. You need to point out how the Taft-Hartley law has contributed to the development of class consciousness in America and to class conflict in American politics."

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota—"You are performing a most vital function for the preservation of democracy and the free institutions in America. I fully appreciate that your primary responsibility is to serve the labor movement. In a larger measure, however, your service is needed for all people, because the interests of the labor movement are interwoven inextricably with community welfare and our democratic way of life."

Buy Gompers stamps!

# Ohio AFL Formally Endorses Ferguson

Columbus, Ohio.—Speaking for more than 450,000 American Federation of Labor members in the state, the statewide advisory committee of the Ohio State Federation of Labor's Educational and Political League formally gave its overwhelming and enthusiastic endorsement to Senator Joseph T. Ferguson for U. S. senator.

The league also gave 22 congressional endorsements to a state of labor-chosen candidates.

The committee, after careful investigation and analysis of the record of all candidates, has compiled a list of these national candidates whose election will be a direct benefit to the citizens of the state.

The state body again endorsed Stephen M. Young for congressman-at-large, in an all-out campaign to elect Young and the other liberal congressmen from Ohio to help break the stranglehold maintained by the anti-Byrd coalition was promised by Phil Hannah, secretary of the state league.

"There is no substitute for registering," Secretary Hannah declared as he stressed the necessity of getting out a large vote for the coming election.

"We can defeat Taft; we can elect Ferguson," he added. "All that is necessary is that the worker and his family register and go to the polls on election day."

Buy Independence Bonds.

# New Care Package For $5.95 Offered

New York.—Eleven European countries will benefit under agreements just concluded by CARE for the introduction of CARE's new Budget Food package.

Designed to meet the request for a smaller package than CARE's Standard Food package at $10, the new Budget Food package, with a net weight of 10 pounds, will sell for $5.95 for guaranteed delivery in Austria, the Benelux countries, England (including Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland), Finland, France, Germany (Berlin and the 3 western zones), Greece, Italy and Norway.

The contents of the new package include: 1 lb. coffee (1 lb. tea for Britain), 2 lbs. bacon, 1 lb. sugar, 1 lb. fluid lard, 24 oz. pork luncheon meat, 2 lbs. rice, 1 lb. fruit preserves and 8 oz. pate.

Because of higher delivery costs the price of the new package will be slightly higher for the Russian zone of Germany, to which it may be sent at the price of $6.35.

Orders for the new package as well as for any of CARE's variety of 20-odd food and textile parcels may be forwarded through any local CARE outlet, or directly to CARE headquarters, 20 Broad Street, New York 5.

Remember Gompers. Buy stamps!

## YANKEE SECRET!

Washington.—Marion H. Hedges, special assistant to Marshall Plan Labor Advisers, told a group of visiting Austrian editors that communists lie when they accuse America of profiteering in Europe by way of the Marshall Plan.

Mr. Hedges later told a group of visiting Germans that the United States actually is attempting to share with Europe the "Yankee secret" of "earning" prices and wages. This, while still out-producing the world.

# Post Office Slash Hurts Labor Press

Washington.—The Eastern Labor Press Conference demanded that Postmaster Jesse M. Donaldson and Congress rescind the orders which curtailed post office delivery service and made thousands of workers idle.

Acting unanimously in 9th annual convention, editors of AFL and independent union papers east of the Mississippi charged in a resolution that Mr. Donaldson's orders:

1. To a drastic degree have affected delivery of the labor press along with other mail.

2. Personnel of the Post Office Department is suffering through layoffs and excessive duties.

"The curtailment," the conference said, "places the devoted employees of the Post Office Department an unjust burden entirely unworthy of our federal government as an enlightened employer. It is highly injurious to the labor press, the public and the national economy as a whole."

Copies of the resolution were sent to House and Senate committees which have recommended that Mr. Donaldson's orders be rescinded.

Other resolutions approved by the more than 50 editors commended the awards program of the International Labor Press of America; AFL Executive Council for endorsing the Fair Trade Union Courier; the aims of the newly-formed National Conference of Union Labor Veterans; AFL Free Trade Union Committee and Committee on Human Rights; and the AFL News Service.

Editors were urged that they be included in the Department of Defense orientation programs.

Capt. F. F. Wakeman, deputy chief, office of Industrial Relations of the U. S. Navy, spoke on the Navy's responsibility for the maintenance of military security and industrial production.

Participating in a luncheon panel on improvement of the labor press were top Washington labor reporters, Joseph A. Loftus, New York Times; Norman Walker, Associated Press; Washington, D. C. Trades Unionist; Leon R. Schachter, Camden, N. J., Courier-Post; J. B. Spencer, Trade Dispatcher; Irvin S. Lipps, Trainman; and Harold Phillips, The Paper Maker, all vice presidents.

Bernard Tansky, editor The American Federationist, was elected vice president for the first time.

Conferees voted the current issue of The Electrical Workers Journal, published by the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, as the outstanding publication of the year in work, typography, editorial excellence and reader interest.

# Seen in ILGWU Film

New York.—AFL President William Green and President David Dubinsky of the International Ladies Garment Workers appear for a few moments at the end of the ILGWU's sock film, "With These Hands." Above President Green's head is a photograph of Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL. Above Mr. Dubinsky is the original AFL charter granted to the ILGWU.

# ILGWU Film Hits Broadway Acclaimed as Socko Success

## Way to Go!

New York.—The International Ladies Garment Workers Union film, "With These Hands," ends with the cloakmaker, ready to retire, greeting a new member by the union. He says: "It's a great feeling to see a clothespin on the clothesboard folder, something to hold your dues stamps. But it's more than that. It's a way to go, a good way!"

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for The A. F. of L. News Service

New York.—Labor, specifically the American Federation of Labor, has arrived on Broadway with the world premiere of the International Ladies Garment Workers biographic film on June 15.

The movie, "With These Hands," was made by the ILGWU. It received the formal blessing of President William Green, who appears in it with ILG President David Dubinsky.

"This is a film," says President Green on the screen, "not only for the ILGWU, but for labor movements. This is for America, and for a free democratic world."

Produced as part of the ILGWU golden jubilee celebration by Promotional Films, the movie tells the story of the union as seen in the life of a cloakmaker. It is shown at the outset applying for retirement under the union pension fund. Playing the part of the cloakmaker is a Broadway star who has appeared in Hollywood films, Sam Levene.

Shown as a series of flashbacks are the struggles to organize the union, the 1910 strike, picketing, the beatings, all climaxed by a reenacted scene of the horrible 1911 Triangle fire in which 146 shirtwaist operators were burned to death in a windowless, barred factory. There is also the story of the communist bid for power in the ILGWU back in 1926, how they almost wrecked the union and how it was saved.

One of the amusing, yet pointed, episodes in "With These Hands" is the story of Sammy, just home from his pay envelope minus a one-dollar union assessment to be used for organizational purposes. His wife complains about the assessment the month before, and this month. The cloakmaker breaks in, announcing:

"I have news. Next month there'll be an assessment for the textile workers strike." His wife asks:

"Who are you working for? Me or the labor movement?" He replies:

"How many suits or dresses does the family of a textile worker buy on $15 a week? Through the union you raise wages, improve conditions. People live like people instead of like an apple. Does an apple buy what I buy in the shop? Now. This stuff about the American standard of living—know how to get it? Build the trade union movement."

The film shows how collective bargaining is conducted in the industry, the summer vacation resort owned by the ILG for its members in the Pennsylvania Poconos Mountains, the health center, etc. And all through the film are woven the episodes which make up a few thousand men and women fought determinedly to bring unionism to a cut-throat industry.

"The motion picture of your union," says President Green in the film to the ILG leader, "portraying the struggles and accomplishments of the ladies' garment workers also typifies the struggles and accomplishments of the American labor movement.

"Samuel Gompers was the architect and builder of the labor union movement in this country. He came to America as an immigrant boy from the East Side of London and bound up his life and identity with the lives of the sceneless men and women who would have been familiar to Gompers.

"I know he would have been proud, as proud as we are, had he lived to see what American labor has achieved for the wage earner as well as for America itself."

Following its Broadway run, for which admission is to be charged, the film will be shown to AFL unions all over the country and to the European labor movement.

# Musicians Reelect Petrillo President

Houston, Tex.—The AFL American Federation of Musicians reelected James C. Petrillo president at the annual convention.

He was chosen for his 11th consecutive term.

Other officers of the federation also reelected were Hugh Gaglen, Los Angeles, vice president; Cleo Clagmann, Newark, N. J., secretary, and Harry J. Steeper, Jersey City, treasurer.

Three incumbents were among the four members named to the international executive committee from the United States. They are John W. Parks, Dallas, Tex.; Herman D. Kenin, Portland, Ore. and George V. Clancy, Detroit. The fourth member is Stanley Ballard, Minneapolis.

# AFL Convention Calendar

*(Following is a list of conventions scheduled for the remainder of this year by National and International Unions and State Federations of Labor affiliated with the banner of the American Federation of Labor.)*

| Date, 1950 | Organization | Place |
|---|---|---|
| June 12 | Oregon State Federation of Labor | LaGrande, Ore. |
| June 16 | Kansas State Federation of Labor | Old Orchard, Me. |
| June 17-18 | Maine Federation of Post Office Clerks | Augusta, Me. |
| June 19 | Glass Bottle Blowers' Ass'n. | Columbus, Ohio |
| June 19 | Int. Glove Wkrs. Union of America | Milwaukee, Wis. |
| June 19 | Oregon State Federation of Labor | Undecided |
| June 19 | United Textile Wkrs. of America | New York, N. Y. |
| June 20 | Texas State Federation of Labor | San Antonio, Texas |
| June 29 | South Carolina State Federation of Labor | Charleston, S. C. |
| July 3 | Nat'l Brotherhood Operative Potters | Cleveland, Ohio |
| July 10 | Washington State Federation of Labor | Tacoma, Wash. |
| July 17 | Int'l Brotherhood of Bookbinders | San Francisco, Calif. |
| July 17 | Stove Mounters' Int. Union | Louisville, Ky. |
| *Aug. 7 | Radio and Television Directors Guild | New York City |
| Aug. 14 | Idaho State Federation of Labor | Coeur d'Alene, Ida. |
| Aug. 14 | North Carolina State Federation of Labor | Port Arthur, Tex. |
| Aug. 14 | Nat'l. Ass'n. of Special Del. Messengers | Winston-Salem, N.C. |
| Aug. 14 | Int. Bro. Pulp, Sulphite, etc. | Omaha, Nebr. |
| Aug. 14 | Massachusetts State Federation of Labor | Portland, Ore. |
| Aug. 14 | Int. Alliance Theatrical Stage Emp. | Undecided |
| Aug. 15 | Montana State Federation of Labor | Detroit, Mich. |
| Aug. 21 | International Typographical Union | Helena, Mont. |
| Aug. 21 | Wisconsin State Federation of Labor | Washington, D. C. |
| Aug. 21 | Utah State Federation of Labor | Oshkosh, Wis. |
| Aug. 21 | Ohio State Federation of Labor | Richfield, Utah |
| Aug. 21 | American Federation of Teachers | Columbus, Ohio |
| Aug. 21 | Bro. of Railroad Signalmen of America | Detroit, Mich. |
| Aug. 21 | Int. Photo Engravers Union | Hamilton, Ont. Can. |
| Aug. 21 | Nat'l. Federation of Post Office Clerks | Detroit, Mich. |
| Aug. 21 | West Virginia State Federation of Labor | Cleveland, Ohio |
| Aug. 24 | Int'l Union Operating Engineers | Clarksburg, W. Va. |
| Aug. 26 | Nat'l. Association of Letter Carriers | Ogden, Nev. |
| Aug. 28 | American Fed. of Government Employes | Omaha, Nebr. |
| Sept. 4 | Arizona State Federation of Labor | St. Johnsbury, Vt. |
| Aug. 28 | Wyoming State Federation of Labor | Laramie, Wyo. |
| Sept. 4 | Bro. of Painters, Decorators, etc. | Detroit, Mich. |
| *Sept. 4 | Int. Ass'n. of Railway Carmen of America | Kansas City, Mo. |
| Sept. 4 | Nat'l. Ass'n. of Letter Carriers | Seattle, Wash. |
| Sept. 4 | United Bro. Carpenters & Joiners | Cincinnati, Ohio |
| Sept. 5 | Int. Ass'n. Fire Fighters | Milwaukee, Wis. |
| Sept. 5 | Int. Union Mine Workers | New York, N. Y. |
| *Sept. 11 | New Hampshire State Federation of Labor | Lebanon, N. H. |
| Sept. 11 | Int'l Union Distillery, Rectifying, etc. | Los Angeles, Calif. |
| Sept. 11 | Trades and Labor Congress of Canada | Montreal, Can. |
| Sept. 11 | Mississippi State Federation of Labor | Biloxi, Miss. |
| Sept. 11 | Metal Trades Department | Houston, Tex. |
| Sept. 11 | Nebraska State Federation of Labor | Omaha, Nebr. |
| Sept. 11 | Railway Patrolmen's Int. Union | Chicago, Ill. |
| Sept. 11 | Int'l. Ass'n. Postal Supervisors | Washington, D. C. |
| Sept. 11 | Int. Ass'n. Operative Plasterers, etc. | St. Louis, Mo. |
| Sept. 11 | Int. Union United Cement, Lime, etc. | St. Louis, Mo. |
| Sept. 11 | Int. Union Chemical Workers | Undecided |
| Sept. 12 | Indiana State Federation of Labor | Indianapolis, Ind. |
| Sept. 12 | United Ass'n. Journeymen & Apprentices | Atlantic City, N. J. |
| Sept. 13 | Building and Construction Trades Dept. | Houston, Tex. |
| Sept. 15 | Union Label Trades Department | Houston, Tex. |
| Sept. 15 | Union Label Trades Department | St. Paul, Minn. |
| Sept. 18 | Int. Stereotypers & Electrotypers, etc. | St. Louis, Mo. |
| Sept. 18 | New Mexico State Federation of Labor | Undecided |
| Sept. 18 | California State Federation of Labor | Miami Beach, Fla. |
| Sept. 18 | Illinois State Federation of Labor | Lexington, Ky. |
| Sept. 20 | Rhode Island State Fed. of Labor (an) | Chicago, Ill. |
| Oct. 16 | Int. Bro. Electrical Workers | Chicago, Ill. |
| Oct. 16 | Int. Ass'n. Sheet Metal Workers | Peoria, Ill. |
| Oct. 23 | Alaska State Federation of Labor | Providence, R. I. |
| *Oct. | American Federation of Musicians | Miami, Fla. |
| *Nov. | Nat'l Association Master Mechanics, etc. | Chicago, Ill. |
| Dec. 4 | Int'l Alliance Bill Posters, Billers, etc. | Ketchikan, Alaska |
| —— | Date not definitely set | Undecided |
| | | Washington, D. C. |
| | | St. Louis, Mo. |

# Sen. Donnell Insults American Workers

## SENATE KEEPS RENT CONTROLS

Washington.—The U. S. Senate voted 36 to 28 to retain rent controls until Dec. 31, 1950. The House immediately took up the measure.

The bill, to replace the one which expires on June 30th, would permit local governments to continue rent controls beyond that date. Dec. 31 until June 30, 1951, if local government bodies take such affirmative action.

The Senate immediately called up the bill to expand Social Security.

Washington.—Sen. Forrest C. Donnell's bill to outlaw strikes on the nation's railroads "is a gratuitous insult to all union members throughout the country."

So said AFL President William Green testifying against the bill before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Mr. Green said passage of the bill would be a step toward compulsory arbitration on all industry.

The AFL president made his second appearance in a little over three months against a "lynch-labor" bill. In February he presented AFL opposition to Sen. A. Willis Robertson's proposal to bring all unions under the anti-trust laws.

The only way to prevent these constant efforts to chain and wreck the free, democratic labor movement is to retire the reactionaries and do it this November and the others like him as they come up for reelection.

Of the Donnell bill, Mr. Green said in part:

"It would be difficult to find a single bill of the comparatively brief length of S. 3436 which contains within it as many fundamentally objectionable features as does the Donnell bill.

"Prohibitions and sanctions against such organized labor as first and unusually fought since its very inception are all contained within the bill. Compulsory arbitration, boycott prohibition under criminal sanctions of the right to strike, and the use of injunctions.

"Although confined to the railroad industry, the bill constitutes a first and vital step toward the discovery and from thence to industry generally.

"My unalterable opposition and that of the American Federation of Labor and all of its constituent national and international unions to any form of compulsory arbitration in any industry, public utility or otherwise, and to any attempt to bring the problems of management and labor through strike prohibition or the use of the injunction have been presented to this and other committees of the Senate and House on numerous occasions.

"Industrial peace will not be secured by the establishment of labor courts or by compulsory arbitration. Maintenance of satisfactory industrial peace rests upon the full acceptance of free collective bargaining. Compulsory arbitration is a substitute to a procedure. It may temporarily serve as a unwilling acceptance of the results. But forced obedience breeds resistance. It is, therefore, a source of further conflict. Obedience, exacted by compulsion, can never be a substitute for agreement.

"There is no warrant whatsoever to assume, as is assumed by those who propose outlawing strikes and imposing arbitration in the public emergency, that the working men and women of this country have little regard for their country and its institutions as to permit any interruption to arise where the existence of the state, the maintenance of its institutions, and the health and welfare of its citizens are in imminent danger perilled.

"The legislative assumption that the working people of this country are so lacking in patriotism and moral fiber as to compel obedience of the workers but on the state of mind of the workers themselves.

"At no time in the history of this country have the working people evidenced such lack of morale; on the contrary they have made the nation on earth whose wage earners are as conscious of their country's democratic institutions or as eager to maintain them as are ours. To assume that American workers would deliberately bring about the horrendous situations contemplated of the sponsors of this bill is not only completely without foundation in past history but is a gratuitous insult to the union members throughout the country."

## CANADA PRICES AT PEAK

Ottawa, Can.—The long-heralded drop in the cost of living is still to put in an appearance. The price index for the period ending June 1 remains at the all-time high of 164.

# Rutgers Holds 20th Annual Labor Meet

New Brunswick, N. J.—AFL President William Green returned to the campus of Rutgers University to deliver the keynote address at the 20th anniversary Labor Institute.

Mr. Green visited Rutgers 20 years ago, then as an anxious observer of a brand new venture in bringing education and labor together to discuss unemployment from industrial paralysis.

He told his 149 listeners—New Jersey Federation of Labor unionists, educators and government leaders—that they were making history. The intervening years have proved many of the correctness of this prophecy.

The attendance at the labor institute was not the only observer at this first formal meeting of American college and union representatives in June 1931. Representatives of employers as far west as Michigan had come to see if the project would work.

Today, 20 years later, American people were so convinced of the values of sound labor information that by the following June a similar institute was underway at Ann Arbor. Today, models of the Rutgers Institute are found in 75 colleges and universities in 40 states.

Labor was even more impressed with the outcome of that meeting 20 years ago. Before the 5-day session ended, Rutgers' labor-management community requested future conferences and the State Federation of Labor at its next annual meeting petitioned Rutgers to continue its institute each June.

In 1947, the New Jersey Legislature, recognizing the contributions which the institute has made to labor-management understanding, created the Rutgers Institute of Management and Labor Relations.

## AFL AUTO UNION WINS $150 FUND

Decatur, Ill.—Monthly pensions running to $150 have been won by Local 877 of the AFL United Automobile Workers of America.

The new agreement was signed with the A. E. Staley Co. of Decatur, Ill., and will cover approximately 3,000 employes. The pension program provides for a minimum monthly payment of $100 for employes retiring at 65 years with 30 years experience. Based on prevailing earnings, however, officials of both the local union and the company estimate that more than 80 percent of the employes will receive more than the minimum. The plan, including primary social security benefits, is entirely financed by the company and is guaranteed in a current contract.

It was estimated that the Staley plan will be worth more to workers than that of the Budd Co. in Detroit, heretofore thought to be the most liberal in its industry.

### SPEAK AT TAMIMENT

New York.—AFL President William Green, Vice President Matthew Woll, and Joseph Keenan, director Labor's League for Political Education, will head the list of speakers at the annual conference of the Tamiment Social and Economic Institute in Pennsylvania, June 22-25, which will be devoted to "Gompers—and a Century of Labor."

# $200 Pension Top Won by AFL Local

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—A wage increase of 12½ cents an hour will be paid to nearly 6,000 AFL electricians in Chicago beginning Aug. 7. The new rate will be $2.65 an hour.

The increase was voted by a joint arbitration board which has processed all disputes for more than 20 years between the Electrical Contractors Association of Chicago and Local 134 of the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

J. Walter Collins, secretary-treasurer of the arbitration board, said 1 percent of payroll will be deducted by the employer from wages to support the Employes Benefit Fund, one of the oldest welfare programs in existence in organized labor.

Another 1 percent of payroll is paid into the fund directly by the electricians when they pay their quarterly dues. The fund supports a pension plan, a $1,000 death benefit, hospitalization and surgical plans, disability insurance, unemployment assistance and, other provisions.

Under the pension plan, electricians who retire at 65 can draw pensions up to $200 a month, including federal social security. There are now almost 100 pensioners on the rolls of Local 134.

The wage increase agreement was perfected only a few days before the golden jubilee celebration of Local 134 in the Chicago Coliseum, May 27, marking 50 years of steady growth since it was chartered June 22, 1900, by the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (as the IBEW was then known).

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# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

# SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON D. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

**Samuel Gompers said:**

**It is the duty of man to work, but work was never designed and ought never to be so prostituted as to lead to debasement or slavery.**

## Women's League Quits With 'Carry On' Cry

Washington.—The National Women's Trade Union League dissolved on June 15 after 47 years of pioneer crusading for protection of women and children in industry.

Miss Elisabeth Christman, secretary-treasurer for 27 years, said she believed the league had accomplished its mission.

"Women are now widely organized and have the protection of union standards," she said. "The unions themselves now do the work which we once did. I think we can be proud of our record and of the sacrifices made by many of our pioneers in this movement.

The National Women's Trade Union League was organized in 1903 at Faneuil Hall, Boston, during an AFL convention. The late Samuel Gompers gave it his strong endorsement at a time when working women and the labor movement had few sympathetic supporters.

The sweat shops, the strife, the ignoble attitude of employers toward their workers in 1903 seem far away now. But the record of improvement in working conditions for women and children, the understanding of their problems, and the growth of the labor movement was made bright by the services of the Women's Trade Union League.

In some far year ahead, readers of that record will find the lowlights of the Women's Trade Union League still lighting the way to go. Let the record speak!

For 47 years the league was a federation of trade unions with women members, with a supplementary membership of persons who indorsed its principles and supported its efforts. National and International Unions and State Federations of Labor were linked to the league by affiliation.

In the several industrial centers where the league maintained local branches there was a similar relationship. The Chicago Industrial Union upon which the Women's Trade Union League based its work is the organization of women wage earners into trade unions. Throughout the years it has been their spokesman, the interpreter of their problems—and these have grown in complexity with mass production and mounting by repetitive processes and mechanized assembling.

Above all others to whom tribute is made and gratitude must be expressed is Margaret Dreier Robins, for 38 years the president or honorary president of the league. She was the guiding spirit from the sixty days after the league until the end of her life in 1945. Her spirit and, undoubtedly, her exhilarating leadership, opened the door to a wider and more useful life for countless women workers.

As the program of the league developed over the years there was practically no facet of the social life that it did not influence. The primary task of organizing women into trade unions was carried out successfully in many parts of the country. Women in the garment industry and other needle trades, in the textile industry, in many other trades and industries, were helped by the league to organize and become part of the labor movement.

During the months of the bitter strife in the clothing industry of Chicago in 1910 the league organized and supported the commissary for the striking workers. Out of this effort the league was one of 7 signers of the famous Hart, Schaffner and Marx agreement which resulted from this strife and which set up collective bargaining machinery in the industry.

Elimination of home work and the sweat shop was part of the league's successful achievements. So the league established the first training school for women labor leaders in 1915, the first summer school for women workers at Bryn Mawr College followed the resolution adopted by the league at its convention in 1913.

As early as 1905 the league initiated a movement for a federal investigation of the conditions of women and child wage earners, which led eventually to the establishment of the Women's Bureau in the federal government.

It inaugurated health instruction and medical care for women workers in Chicago in 1912, and in 1908 it was instrumental in setting up an Immigrants' Protective League and in developing an Americanization program for immigrants, which was a pioneer group in that great city.

The first international gathering of working women in history, in 1919, was inaugurated and sponsored by the National Women's Trade Union League, and in 1922 the league was the first national woman's organization to go on record for international cooperation to abolish war.

Miss Christman said in a final report:

"The complete history of the league's work for women and for the labor movement will be found in the advanced opportunities for women, in the improved working conditions in industry and in the greater understanding that exists today of the problems of all workers.

"We have ploughed the hard fields and planted them with the seeds of accomplishment. Some of the crops have been harvested, others are yet to come to fruition. We ask our friends and supporters to carry on in the many new ways that are now open to them until the entire harvest is in, and women workers everywhere have full opportunity to play their part in the economic and social life of the nation."

### They Don't Go West For Their Pensions

San Francisco. — California's retirement laws, it appears, have not resulted in a disproportionate increase in the state's population of persons over 65 years, according to statistics of the California Taxpayers' Association.

The California Federation of Labor said the survey revealed that the percentage of persons over 65 years of age remains low, especially high when compared with data from the United States as a whole.

In California 7.7 percent of the population is over 65. In the United States it is 6.8 percent over the 65-figure.

In California 29.2 percent of those over 65 are receiving old age pensions while in the U. S. 23.1 percent are receiving such aid.

## $1,000,000 in Bonds Sold on Flag Day

Washington.—Labor groups and union members pledged or bought approximately $1,000,000 worth of U. S. Independence Savings Bonds at the Flag Day program sponsored by the AFL Government Employes Council.

The bond campaign through July 4 is supported by the AFL.

AFL Vice President W. C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, presided over the ceremonies which drew thousands of government workers and others to the Washington Monument Grounds.

A mass pledge of allegiance to the Flag, given, state by state, as national flags were paraded by the 3d Infantry Regiment, and music was supplied by the U. S. Navy Band and the Newsmarket, Ind., High School Band which sold two carloads of food at 24 cents a bag to finance the trip to Washington.

Assistant Secretary of Defense Paul Griffith said that America must build its own strength to make this nation and the world safe for peace and freedom.

### USE GOMPERS PENS

Atlantic City, N. J.—Two thousand delegates from locals of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union took notes with a special Samuel Gompers memorial pen-and-pencil fountain pen at the ILGWU 50th jubilee convention.

The pen, which bears a likeness of Samuel Gompers, carries the label of the International Chemical Workers Union, Local 341, representing employes of the manufacturer, S. Buchanan & Co., of 1737 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago.

## Chapman to Asia For ICFTU Survey

Washington.—Gordon W. Chapman, secretary-treasurer of the Texas State, County and Municipal Workers, departed for Brussels on June 16 en-

Chapman

route to Asia for a survey for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Mr. Chapman and John Brophy of the CIO were chosen by the ICFTU executive board at its recent meeting in Brussels to be United States members of a 4-man delegation to study social and trade union conditions in Asia.

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, who represented the AFL at the ICFTU meeting, announced that Brussels is the International Confederation's chief.

"This tour of Asia by ICFTU representatives will have extreme importance.

"It will be the first step on the part of the international free trade union forces to counteract the Cominform offensive which is now being mounted through the World Federation of Trade Unions, as outlined in the decisions of its Peiping conference.

"Through this delegation the ICFTU will bring support to all the trade union forces of the Orient which are attempting to resist the forces of communism and alleviate the economic situation of Asian workers.

"It is hoped that this ICFTU visit will pave the way for the calling of regional conferences in Asia and lead to the creation of an Asian regional trade union organization."

### N. Y. TO GO ON

New York.—The Women's Trade Union League of New York celebrated its 45th year of legislative activity by adopting a 1951 program.

The league is one of a number which will continue despite the dissolution of the National Women's Trade Union League.

## Scholarship Winners

Chicago.—Michael A. Musser (left) and Raymond Van Kerkhove (right), members of the Chicago Flat Janitors Union affiliated with the AFL Building Service Employes, stand next to their offspring, Frederick M. Musser and Shirley Anne Van Kerkhove, 18, winners of the union's 1950 Opportunity Scholarship Awards. Each will receive $1,000 toward the cost of the center in AFL Vice President William L. McFetridge, president of the Building Service Employes.

## Girl and Boy Win Janitors' Awards

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—Michael A. Musser and Van Kerkhove, 18, and Frederick Michael Musser, 18, 2 clean-cut young high school graduates, winners of the 1950 Opportunity Scholarship awards of the Chicago Flat Janitors Union.

The union is Local No. 1 of the Building Service Employes International, headed by AFL Vice President William L. McFetridge.

The scholarships entitle the winners to at least a year's study at Northwestern University, with future awards renewal for 3 more years if the students maintain satisfactory grades.

This is the third year the flat janitors have awarded the scholarships. They are given to seniors or graduates of secondary or high schools who are sons or daughters of members of the union in continuous good standing for 5 years or more.

Awards are based on scholastic record in high school, character, personality and promise of future leadership. Henry A. Kruse, secretary-treasurer of the local, is chairman of the scholarship committee.

Shirley Anne is the daughter of Raymond Van Kerkhove, of 8012 S. Evans Ave., Chicago, a member of the Flat Janitors Union since 1937. She is a June graduate from Mount Carmel High School.

Frederick Musser is the son of Michael Arpad Musser, of 845 W. Cornelia Ave., Chicago, a union member since 1924. The young man is graduating from Lane Technical High School.

Four other applicants were given "honorable mention." They are Frank George Jacobs, 1046 N. Mansfield Ave.; Jeanette Florence Reuter, 4807 W. Wallen St.; Bruce Verne Winter, 1514 N. Latrobe Ave., and Nicholas Gerard Vicosa, 2931 N. Neva Ave.

The union established the scholarships, Mr. McFetridge said, with the idea that education should be more available to those with ability to use it, regardless of the financial status of the parents. The American public school system is a result partly of the American Federation of Labor battle for free education.

In addition to the 1950 winners, the flat janitors already are sponsoring four other students on unrestricted scholarships at Northwestern — the 1949 and 1948 winners. Value of each scholarship is about $3,000.

## 3rd Printing Ready Of Gompers' Credo

New York.—"Samuel Gompers' Credo," a pamphlet containing significant excerpts from his speeches and writings, published recently by the AFL Gompers Centennial Committee, has gone into its third printing because of the huge and continuing demand for copies.

Scores of international unions, state federations and central labor bodies have sent in individual requests for 25 to 2,000 copies. Many of these note that they wish to distribute the "Credo" not only to officers and active members but to newspapers, radio stations, schools and civic leaders in their localities.

AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, chairman of the Gompers Centennial Committee, said that the response to the pamphlet was a "heartening indication of the widespread interest in the constructive philosophy of the AFL and its founder."

"The pamphlet is one of the most outstanding pieces of literature that the American trade union movement has produced," Charles J. MacGowan, president of the AFL International Association of Marble Workers, from Ship Builders and Helpers, wrote to Mr. Woll.

Ordering 3,000 copies, Mr. MacGowan expressed the conviction that "this pamphlet goes a long way toward filling the crying need for a booklet or pamphlet which would interpret the AFL to everybody, local and international, the basic philosophy underlying the policies of the American Federation of Labor."

Harry Andrews, secretary - treasurer of the West Virginia State Federation of Labor, in ordering 2,000 copies to which the federation will add 4 pages of information on its own organization, stressed that it will be sent to news and radio writers, public officials and educators throughout the state.

The International Ladies Garment Workers Union, headed by David Dubinsky, distributed 1,500 copies of the pamphlet to its convention delegates at a special "Gompers Day" in Atlantic City.

The 46-page "Credo" contains quotations on the philosophy and purposes of the AFL, organization policies, education, government and law, civil liberties, politics, Americanism, war and peace, and totalitarianism.

Copies are available from the Gompers Centennial Committee, 55 West 42d St., New York 18, New York.

## Rent Lids Appear Certain to Dec. 31

Washington.—Federal rent controls appear certain to last to Dec. 31.

Whether they are continued beyond that date will be up to local communities. But local governments will have to take formal action to continue rent curbs.

The Senate and House completed action on separate rent control bills. The Senate voted to keep federal controls until Dec. 31, the House to keep them until Jan. 31, 1951. Both bills permit the exercise of local option after those termination dates.

The Senate refused to accept the House version and the two will go now to a conference committee which is expected to make a speedy final action by both houses before expiration of current controls on June 30.

Are you listening to Frank Edwards?

## BACK STEEL PLAN

Brussels, Belgium.—The executive board of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions declared itself in agreement with the principles involved in the Schuman Plan for the pooling of steel and economy of the Ruhr.

But the board demanded adequate representation on the part of the free trade unions in the working out of the details of any such program.

The ICFTU executive board planned to open a New York office July 1.

The board also announced plans to study strengthening the organization of salaried employes and professional workers.

## Meany Opens Gompers Room at ILO; U. S. Centennial Programs Increase

### AFL Leaders at ICFTU

Brussels, Belgium.—Irving Brown, AFL representative in Europe, makes a point to AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, at executive board meeting of the world labor organization.

Geneva, Switzerland.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany formally dedicated the Samuel Gompers Memorial Room at the headquarters of the International Labor Office.

The event was one of many held or planned in far corners of the world in honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of the founder and first president of the AFL.

Meanwhile, in the United States, the formal programs celebrating the Gompers Centennial included a number and interest as international unions, state federations, central labor councils, educational institutions and summer study centers gave a day, week end or whole period of study to honoring Mr. Gompers.

In response to Mr. Meany's speech of dedication, President Paul Finet of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions pledged that "this room will never be used for secret talks to advance war or division in the world."

The beautifully-appointed room is the gift of the American Federation of Labor to the ILO and will be used by workers, employers and government labor experts of 61 countries for committee meetings.

Mr. Meany said:

"I come here as representative of the millions of members of the American Federation of Labor to the United States and Canada to help dedicate room in the magnificent ILO to the Samuel Gompers, the first president of the AFL.

"The fact that there is an International Labor Organization is due to men like Sam Gompers. Mr. Gompers was chairman of the conference of trade unionists from 10 countries who met at Versailles in 1919 and drafted the plan which led the peace conference to set up the ILO.

"For 31 years now the ILO has been working to help stabilize relations of diplomats, but with delegates from the workers' and employers' organizations, too. Today it is one of the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

"There are still millions of Americans who do not know that this great ILO—management-government conference exists to fix minimum standards of employment, safety and social welfare by means of international agreements which become binding on those member countries which ratify them.

"They have heard vaguely about the ILO but they do not realize how important it is to the success of President Truman's Point Four program for extending technical assistance to the underdeveloped areas of the world.

"The ILO has been providing technical assistance for 31 years. It is one of the world's great storehouses of knowledge concerning the problems of industrial relations, wages and the technical training of workers. It also is the basic scientific agency for the study of industrial safety and hygiene, for the protection of women and young workers in industry, and for many other things of which Sam Gompers, if he were alive today, would certainly be proud.

"I am very happy, also, that the ILO is meeting on this occasion by my good friend, Paul Finet, of Belgium, who is workers' vice president of the ILO conference now meeting in this beautiful city of Geneva. Mr. Finet has worked closely with the AFL in his capacity of first president of the new International Confederation of Free Trade Unions."

## Free Trade Unionists Combat Stalin Attempt to Conquer Asia From China

Washington.—Free trade unionists have begun a counteroffensive to prevent Communist Dictator Joseph Stalin from conquering all of Asia from his China base.

They've taken these steps:

1. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions has appointed a delegation to leave at the end of June to lend support to anti-communist Asia's free trade unionists.

2. AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, chairman of the AFL Free Trade Union Committee, has demanded in a letter to Trygve Lie, secretary-general of the United Nations, that Communist China be denied the seat of the Chinese Nationalist government in the Security Council.

3. Richard Deverall, AFL representative in Bombay, India, warns, in an article in the current issue of the American Federationist, that Stalin has never forgotten Lenin's remark that "the road to Paris is through Peiping" and that Stalin can only be stopped by U. S. military and economic aid.

Labor's Monthly Survey of the AFL warned that the Soviets plan further aggression from their China base.

Soviet control in China follows the pattern familiar in Europe. Stalin's puppet Mao carries out his orders, and in return Stalin supplies him with the armed force necessary to keep him in power and to carry forward his plans. Soviet planes and equipment are being furnished, Soviet generals direct Red China's armies.

From China base, the Soviet reaches for Indo-China, plans a drive into Tibet, invades Thailand, has already conquered the island of Hainan, looks toward a drive on Formosa, the last island stronghold of the legitimate government of China.

By fomenting civil war in Indo-China and attacking the Viet Nam government which is a member of the French Union, Stalin accomplishes a double purpose: He forces the French to drain their military strength away from Europe, and also prepares a further communist advance into southeast Asia, toward Indonesia, Malaya, Burma, with the goal of outflanking India. And India is the key to this vital southeastern area, rich in so many essential raw materials.

This is an area of great danger to U. S., at the western door to our own country.

It is significant that the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions is sending a delegation to India and the Far East preliminary to setting up a branch office there. Such an office will be a vital rallying point for free trade unionists who seek to defeat communist efforts to capture the Indian and other trade union movements.

In China, the ruthless communist conquest has brought the people to poverty and starvation. It is estimated that about 10 million Chinese will die of starvation this year, and the Soviet has refused to permit the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization to send food to them. Many of the free trade unionists who sought to better the conditions of Chinese workers have been murdered in cold blood. Lin Sung-shan, veteran trade union leader revered by all, had been I Union Chinese workers' delegate to the International Labor Organization. He thought he could carry on his trade union activities under the communist government as he would under any other, and continued to help the Chinese workers. He was beheaded by the communist authorities.

Stalin now seeks to remove from the United Nations the legitimate government of China, a charter member, and replace it with the usurping communists, imposed on the people of China by military conquest in violation of the United Nations charter. He hopes by so doing to secure for Red China the veto powers on the Security Council.

As Chairman Matthew Woll of the federation's Free Trade Union Committee, has pointed out, it is for the nations to agree to any such maneuver "would be tantamount to signing its own death warrant."

### QUIT WPTU

Paris, France.—National trade union centers in 2 more countries have withdrawn from the communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions. Latest to revolt against WFTU tactics of subverting workers' interests to those of the Kremlin are the Confederation of Mexican Labor (CTM) and the Israeli Federation of Labor (Histadrut).

## Hate-Labor Lobbies Asked For Methods

Washington.—The House Committee to Investigate Lobbying has called spokesmen for the nation's outstanding lobbies to testify on organizations about their methods.

Committee Chairman Frank Buchanan summoned Merwin K. Hart, president of the National Economic Council, and Edward A. Rumely, executive secretary, Committee for Constitutional Government, for further questioning about methods and their organizations in influencing legislation in Congress.

Both men have challenged the committee's right to inquire into their activities. They have been supported and defended in committee hearings and on the House floor by anti-labor Rep. Clarence J. Brown, Ohio; Joseph P. O'Hara, Minnesota; Clare E. Hoffman, Michigan; and Paul Brown, Georgia.

Mr. Hart was due to begin answering questions at public hearings June 20.

### That's What We Say

Washington. — The greatest need for new housing is among families with incomes of less than $4,000, the larger families, and minority groups, particularly in the large urban areas, according to the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Lowered housing costs without reductions in the size or quality of the house is the greatest need in the field of housing.

Generally, size and quality of housing being built for families of moderate incomes have been reduced to the minimum for liveability.